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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/124,754	07/29/1998	SHINICHIROU GOTOU	P7439-8005	7056

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EXAMINER

TANG, KENNETH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2127

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/124,754

Applicant(s)

GOTOU ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth Tang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 July 1998 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This non-final action is response to paper number 12, Preliminary Amendment C, filed on 6/18/03.
2. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
3. Claims 1-15 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirakawa (5,664,126) in view of DeLorme (US Patent Number 5,559,707) and further view of Ran et al. (hereinafter Ran) (US Patent Number 6,209,026 B1).**
5. Referring to claims 1, 6, 11, 13-14, Hirakawa teaches an email system (*electronic mail, col 32, lines 11-17*) comprising:
 - Text input means (*text transmission, col 22, lines 37-47*);
 - Extracting means (*particular keyword, full text retrieving, col 2, lines 55, and extracted, texts, col. 29, lines 50-54*);

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- Adding means (*information added, col 33, lines 34-42, and for example, a message is converted into an electronic mail, col. 5, lines 54-56, and transmission of messages, electronic mails, col. 32, lines 11-17*);
- Text display means (*visualizer, 230, col 11 and col 22*).

Hirakawa teaches extracting text but fails to explicitly teach a system specifying a place and a map display means. However, DeLorme teaches the use of a map display for showing map information of a specified place, for example, waypoints (*map display, waypoint, col 35, lines 11-44*). It is inherent in DeLorme that text is inputted and extracted to define waypoints, etc. It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine a map navigation feature of DeLorme to the system of Hirakawa so that map information can be transmitted and received.

Hirakawa in view of DeLorme fails to explicitly teach a route guidance means for providing a route guidance instruction based on said information added to said electronic mail, said route guidance means being provided with said map display means. However, Ran discloses an in-vehicle navigation system that can retrieve real-time information from email (*"in-vehicle", "real-time traveler information", "database in internet in-vehicle navigation device", "email", "point-to-point and route-specific route suggestion", "route maps", "information map", col. 6, lines 26-67 through col. 7, lines 1-8*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the feature of having a route/map guidance means based on information from email to the existing system for the reason of increasing the

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accuracy of route information by providing real-time traveler information to the in-vehicle navigation system (*col. 6, lines 26-30*).

6. Referring to claims 2, 5, 7-10, Hirakawa teaches using a transmitter communication terminal for transmitting email (*Figure 24, 530*) and a receiver communication terminal for receiving email (*Figure 24, 540*). Hirakawa also teaches the use of a server (*site server 200*) connected by a communication link (*site handler 240*). It is well known that a server has the capability of storing data - data that could include map information.

7. Referring to claims 3 and 4, DeLorme teaches the use of a route guidance means (*displayed route, col 11, lines 34-50*) and coordinate data (*geographical coordinate system, col 3, lines 11-18*).

8. Referring to claim 12, Hirakawa teaches an system that can transmit and receive email (*electronic mail, col 32, lines 11-17*).

9. Referring to claim 15, it is rejected for the same reasons as stated in the rejection of claims 1, 6, 11, 13-14 described above.

10. Referring to claim 16, Ran teaches the system of claim 2 wherein the transmitter communication terminal and the receiver communication terminal are mounted in a vehicle (*"in-vehicle navigation device", col. 6, line 34*).

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth Tang whose telephone number is (703) 305-5334. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Grant can be reached on (703) 308-1108. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 746-7140.

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July 23, 2003


MAJID BANANKHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER